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BOROUGH OF NEW ROMNEY (KENT)

Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and of the Public Health Inspector for the Year 1962

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1962.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 2,740 which was an increase of 270 over that of the previous year.

Live Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births was 56 (31 M. 25 F.) which was an increase of 21 from that of the previous year and the crude birth rate was accordingly 20.44; after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution and allows valid comparison with other Districts the rate becomes 19.83; this being higher than that of 18.0 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths and Rate

One stillbirth was registered and the corresponding rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 17.54, compared with that of 18.1 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality and Rate

It is gratifying to record that this rate was nil, as there was no infant death.

Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rate

This rate was nil as there were no maternal deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion and is a general index of the high standard of modern obstetric practice.

Total Deaths and Death Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 31 (16 M. 15 F.) and the crude death rate was 11.23, which, after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, as for births, becomes 11.34 compared with that of 11.9 for England and Wales.

The chief group cause of deaths was from the natural causes of death amongst the aged, i.e. Heart and Circulatory Diseases and Vascular lesions of the Nervous System, of which there were 16 in number.

Disease of the Coronary Artery of the Heart was the cause of 6 (4M. 2F.) of those deaths and the ages at death were 59, 59, 65, 67, 74, 83 years.

Cancer was the cause of 6 deaths, 3 of which were from Lung Cancer and 1 from Cancer of the Breast. The mortality from Cancer of the Lung is higher than the majority of other groups of Cancer which are less difficult to diagnose at an early stage and which are more accessible to surgical and radiological treatment.

The other causes of death were miscellaneous.

Infectious Diseases

The incidence of Infectious Disease was minimal during the year. None of the more serious infections, namely, Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Meningitis etc., occurred.

Measles

Thirteen cases were notified compared with 175 the previous year which is typical of its bi-ennial prevalence. The virus is always present amongst children and outbreaks occur when a sufficient number of susceptible children has accumulated. Its more serious complications, namely, Broncho-pneumonia and Acute Otitis Media are now comparatively infrequent and when they do occur, treatment with the Sulpha drugs or Antibiotics is usually specific.

Whooping Cough

Only two cases were notified in comparison with eight in the previous year. In all probability, this minimum number of cases is due to the barrier created by preventive vaccination, against a disease which has been the cause of much distress, of much chronic lung damage and of innumerable deaths amongst infants.

Scarlet Fever

Four sporadic cases were notified. In its present phase this infection is comparatively mild and patients are usually treated at home, unless, one of its more serious complications namely Carditis, Acute Suppurative Otitis Media or Acute Nephritis supervenes - today these are comparatively rare, but Acute Nephritis is the most likely to occur unexpectedly.

Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia

Eight cases of this illness were notified. Including the secondary Pneumonias, which are not notifiable, there was only one death.

Tuberculosis

Two new cases of conjugal Respiratory Tuberculosis in the 45-54 age group were notified. The notifications now are mostly amongst the older age groups rather than amongst the adolescents which is a favourable sign as prior to 1950, the adolescent age-group contained the highest number of notifications.

There was no new case of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis which is a general index of the safety of the milk and meat supplies.

Also there was no death which is a reflection of the efficacy of modern treatment.

In conclusion, I would state that the Public Health of the Borough was very satisfactory throughout the year and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your interest in the work of the Department and also the staff for their efficiency and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Central Public Health Office,
14, Church Road,
Ashford, Kent.

Tel: No: Ashford 1485.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

FOR 1962

Area:- 1,509 acres

Registrar-General's Estimate of:-

The Resident Population	...	...	...	2,740
Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Books	...	...	...	1,129
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£47,672
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£188

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The ancient and historial Cinque Port Borough of New Romney, is today predominantly an Agricultural District. There are also with the Borough the workshops of the Romney, Hythe, Dymchurch Light Railway and a few small factories. Part of the boundary is formed by the sea at Littlestone and Greatstone where there are wide expanses of sand which attract many summer visitors and holiday-makers. There is almost no unemployment and social conditions may generally be regarded as being satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

		<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>		<u>New Romney Borough</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
1.	<u>Live Births</u>	56	31	25	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	20.44 (Adjusted Rate 19.83)	18.0
	(a) Legitimate	52	30	22			
	(b) Illegitimate	4	1	3			
2.	<u>Stillbirths</u>	1	1	-	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	17.54	18.1
	(a) Legitimate						
3.	<u>Total live and stillbirths</u>	57	32	25			
4.	<u>Deaths</u>	31	16	15	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	11.23 (Adjusted Rate 11,34)	11.9
5.	<u>Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.</u>	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	Nil	Not Available
6.	<u>Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age</u>	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	Nil	21.4
	(a) Legitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 leg- itimate live births	Nil	
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	
7.	<u>Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age</u>	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	Nil	15.6
	(a) Legitimate	-	-	-			
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
8.	<u>Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births</u>					7.69%	
9.	Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			...	...	...	6
	Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			...	...	...	-
	Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea			...	...	...	-
	Deaths from Measles			...	...	...	-

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year:-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	4
Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	8
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	13

CAUSES OF DEATH IN NEW ROMNEY BOROUGH

DURING 1962

<u>ALL CAUSES</u>				<u>Males</u> 16	<u>Female</u> 15
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	-	-
3.	Syphilitis Disease	...	...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	-	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	3	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	-	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	2	-
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	-	-
16.	Diabetes	...	...	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	-	4
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	4	2
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	-	-
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	1	3
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	3	-
22.	Influenza	...	...	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	1	-
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	-	3
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	1	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	-	-
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	-	-
34.	All other accidents	...	...	-	-
35.	Suicide	...	...	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality, 1962

Age Periods	New Cases			Deaths			Total Cases on Register		
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory
	M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.	
0. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	9	1
1. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45. ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis of patients who had not been notified as suffering from this disease.

IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation and whooping cough immunisation figures for 1962 based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health.

<u>Year of Birth</u>	<u>Diphtheria Immunisation</u> (Singly or in combination)		<u>Whooping Cough Immunisation</u> (Singly or in combination)
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Reinforcing</u>	<u>Primary</u>
1962	25	Nil	23
1961	33	1	32
1960	6	7	4
1959	Nil	2	Nil
1958	1	4	1
1953-1951	1	22	1
1948-1952	Nil	1	Nil
Total	66	37	61

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following are the poliomyelitis vaccination figures for 1962 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

<u>Year</u>	<u>2 Injections</u> (SALK)	<u>3rd Dose</u> (SALK and ORAL)	<u>4th Dose</u> (SALK and ORAL)	<u>3 ORALS</u> (Complete Course)
1962	-	-	-	3
1961	2	9	-	23
1957 - 1960	4	35	-	1
1943 - 1956	-	18	43	5
1933 - 1942	7	15	-	3
Others	10	32	-	4

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the smallpox vaccination figures for 1962 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

<u>Age at Date of Vaccination</u>	<u>Number Vaccinated</u>	<u>Number Re-Vaccinated</u>
Under 1	44	-
1	9	-
2 to 4	13	2
5 to 14	14	5
15 or over	31	30
Total	111	37

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The quantity of water supplied to the area is adequate and the supply is not plumbo-solvent.

(A) Examination of Water Supplies during the year

	<u>Bacteriological Examination</u>			<u>Chemical Examination</u>		
	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Satis- factory</u>	<u>Not Satis- factory</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Satis- factory</u>	<u>Not Satis- factory</u>
Statutory supply undertakings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private sources piped to dwellings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other private Sources	-	-	-	-	-	-

- (B) (i) Number of dwellings not supplied by public water mains or other piped supplies. ... NIL
- (ii) Number of dwellings in the area ... 1,129
- (iii) Number of houses supplied from standpipes ... NIL

(C) Brief details as to extensions of water mains during the year -

Meehan Road - 25 yards - 3" diameter
 Blenheim Road - 30 yards - 4" diameter
 Blenheim Road - 70 yards - 5" diameter

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Reference to any additions or improvements in respect of sewerage systems or sewage disposal works and also to new schemes constructed during the year.

Tenders have been received for extensions to sewage treatment works and relaying of existing sewers at estimated cost of £160,000. The Kent River Board have started construction of pumping station to relieve surface water flooding at Greatstone at estimated cost of £16,000.

FOOD (INCLUDING ICE CREAM AND MILK) AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

- (i) (a) the number of food premises in the area ... 42
- (b) the number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955
- (i) Retailers of Ice Cream ... 32
- (ii) Preparation and manufacture of Sausages and Preserved Foods etc. ... 2
- (c) the number of inspections of registered food premises 10
- (d) the method of disposal of condemned food ... Burial and incineration at refuse tip.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Number of inspections of:-

Butchers and meat products manufacturers	...	...	6
Catering Establishments and Clubs	...	...	6
Dairies	...	...	12
Fish (including fried)	...	...	Nil
Licenced Premises	...	...	3
Stalls, Itinerant Vendors and delivery vans	...	...	2
All other Food Premises	...	...	12

Number of Informal (including Verbal) Notices Served (Food and Drugs Act - Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 2

Number of Food Premises improved as a result of notices served Nil

Inspection of Food and Food-preparing premises

(A) Brief particulars of any action taken, including inspections of meat and other foods, slaughterhouses, stalls, vehicles and food-preparing places:-

- Nil -

(B) Observations on manufacture and sale of ice-cream in accordance with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947 - 1959.

Sale of hard pre-packed ice cream only

MILK AND DAIRIES

(1) Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 (Part 111)
Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 (Part 111)

No. of registered distributors	...	...	2
No. of registered dairies	...	...	4

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Unsound Food Surrendered

	<u>lbs.</u>
Bottled Apricot Jam	5
Chilled Beef	200
Imported leg of lamb	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Home Killed leg of veal	18 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned frozen lambs liver	20
Total weight condemned	<u>248$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

A. <u>Houses demolished</u>			
In Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1957)	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced during year</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil

Not in Clearance Areas		Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
			Persons	Families
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957		Nil	Nil	Nil
B. <u>Unfit Houses Closed</u>		<u>Number</u>		
(5) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957		Nil		
(6) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957		Nil		
(7) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957.		Nil		
C. <u>Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied</u>				
		<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>	
(8) After informal action by local authority		3	Nil	
(9) After formal notice under -				
(a) Public Health Acts		Nil	Nil	
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957		Nil	Nil	
(10) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957		Nil	Nil	
D. <u>Unfit Houses in temporary use (Housing Act, 1957)</u>				
<u>Position at end of year</u>	<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>		
(11) Retained for temporary accommodation				
(a) Under Section 48	Nil	Nil		
(b) Under Section 17(2)	Nil	Nil		
(c) Under Section 46	Nil	Nil		
(12) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53	Nil	Nil		
E. <u>Purchase of Houses by Agreement</u>		<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>Number of occupants of houses in column (1)</u>	
		(1)	(2)	
(13) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased in the year.		Nil	Nil	

IMPROVEMENTS AND CONVERSIONS.

GRANTS

Number of schemes submitted and number approved for works of improvement or conversions, including total costs, the grants made and the number of houses concerned.

Number of applications received	.....	5
Number of applications approved	.....	4
Number of Grants paid	.....	10
Total Cost	.....	£1,250

INSPECTIONS - Summary of inspections made:-

Public Health Act, 1936 and Housing Act, 1957

Number of inspections of dwellings re repairs	...	10
Number of dwellings made fit	...	3
Number of inspections for purposes of Sections 16/17 Housing Act. (Demolition and Closing Orders)	...	6
Number of inspections of clearance areas	...	Nil
Number of inspections for general survey and assessment	...	Nil

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
Housing Subsidies and Standard Grant

Number of inspections in connection with Improvement Grants	...	Nil
Number of inspections in connection with Standard Grants	...	10

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 and Rents Act, 1957

Number of inspections re Certificates of Disrepair	...	Nil
Number of inspections re Certificates as to Remedying of Defects	...	Nil

Housing (general)

Number of inspections re housing applications	...	Nil
-----------------------------------------------	-----	-----

Public Health Act

Number of inspections re:-

Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	10
Aged and Infirm Persons	...	2
Vermin	...	6
Dirty Houses	...	6
Offensive accumulations	...	2
Offensive odours	...	2
Nuisance from Keeping of Animals	...	2

NOTICES SERVED

	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>
Public Health Acts	5	Nil
Housing Acts	1	Nil

HOUSING

(i) Number of families on Council's waiting list at 31-12-62	...	67
(ii) Number of Council houses built during the year	...	Nil
(iii) Number of Private houses built during the year	...	78

CARAVAN SITES

There is one caravan site in the Borough, namely, New Romney Caravan Sites Ltd., Clark Road, Greatstone-on-Sea, and there are 135 caravans on this site.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

The one tanker employed of 1,100 galls. capacity is now proving inadequate to cope with the demand and it will be necessary to put an additional vehicle into service unless main drainage supervenes

DRAINAGE

Total number of premises (including Flats) is :	...	...	1,352
Total number of premises connected to the sewers	...	...	589
Number of premises connected to the sewers	...	...	763
Number of premises connected to cesspools and other forms	...	...	743
Number of premises with pail closets (holiday shacks)	...	...(Estimate)	20

REFUSE COLLECTIONS AND DISPOSAL

1 - 10/12 cube yard gravity packing vehicle with three men is employed full time. Disposal is by crude tipping and burning on tip face. Flies on tip are treated with insecticidal powder and tip covered with earth periodically.

SALVAGE

Waste paper and cardboard is collected and baled.

DISINFECTION

No disinfection was required during the year.

DISINFESTATION

The number of houses found to be infested with vermin was as follows:-

	<u>Bugs</u>	<u>Fleas</u>	<u>Cockroaches</u>
Council houses	Nil	1	Nil
Other houses	Nil	2	Nil

Comments:- Treated with powder and fluid spray

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health
(including inspection made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Reg- ister (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	-	-	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	6	-	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	40	6	-	-
Total	53	12	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No: of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act - Outwork - Sections 110 and 111

There are no Outworkers in the district

RODENT CONTROL	Local Authority	Type of Property Non-Agricultural			
		Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All Other (including Business Premises)	Total of Cols (1) (2) & (3)	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	5	1271	104	1380	2
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:-					
(a) Notification	1	19	1	21	-
(b) Survey under the Act	5	-	-	5	-
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	5	100	25	130	-
3. Total inspections carried out - including re-inspections	6	58	3	67	-
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sect.11) which were found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats (Major)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Rats (Minor)	1	17	1	19	-
(b) Mice (Major)	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Mice (Minor)	-	2	-	2	-
5. Number of infested properties (in Sect.1V) treated by the local authority	1	18	1	20	-
6. Total treatment carried out - including re-treatments	1	19	1	21	-

RODENT CONTROL (Contd.)

	Local Authority	Type of Property Non-Agricultural		Total of Cols.(1) (2) & (3)	Agricul- tural
		Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All Other (including Business Premises)		
7. Number of notices served under Sect.4 of the Act					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work	-	-	-	-	-
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
9. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
10. Number of 'Block' control schemes carried out	-	-	-	-	-

